

Meeting Summary
Northwest Plan
Advisory Committee
August 18, 2005
Northwest Library

Attendees

Mike Brown, Summerwood Civic Assoc.
Lynda Chambers, City of Worthington
Dave Ditmars, NW Civic Association
David Hartsook, Hartsook Real Estate
Chris Holmes, Brookside Estates
Rosemarie Lisko, NW Civic Association
John Macomber, Brookside Woods
Greg Marietti, Augustine Development
Kimberly Nixon-Bell, Rau Lane Civic Association
Mollie O'Donnell, Recreation and Parks Dept.
Bonnie Reynolds, resident
Bill Schuck, NW Civic Association

Steve Soble, Columbus Neighborhood Services
Jack Sowers, SNP
Bob Tedrick, Shaker Square Civic
Suzanne Vais, Columbus Planning Division
Jane Weislogel, Shaker Square Civic Assoc.
Scott Whitlock, NW Civic Association

Suzanne Vais, Senior Planner with the Columbus Planning Division, opened the meeting at approximately 7:05 p.m. Ms. Vais indicated that the main topic of the meeting was to discuss parks and recreation. Mollie O'Donnell with the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department was also in attendance to help facilitate the discussion.

First, Ms. O'Donnell distributed information on existing park and recreation facilities in the northwest area. After a brief discussion on existing facilities there was an open dialogue regarding park and recreation facilities in the northwest area. The following is a summary of the conversation.

- There are 40 acres of undeveloped parkland on Hard Road. This will be developed in 2007. The city will work with the community on developing a plan for the park improvements.
- There are two pieces of land near Sawmill and Summitview roads that should be preserved as parkland. Both property owners are interested in negotiating with the city. Ms. O'Donnell indicated that the city is aware of the interest and will continue to have a dialogue with the property owners.
- Wooded land that is owned by OSU should be preserved.
- The land owned by OSU should be rezoned from its current manufacturing zoning. Standards should be included in the plan in regards to creating public open space on a portion of the land.

- Need to identify SR 161 as an important east-west connector to existing bikepath systems.
- City is looking at ways of partnering with Metro Parks on extending the Olentangy trail north to Highbanks Park.
- City of Worthington will be developing an athletic park on 10 acres along Godown Road.
- It was suggested that the city become more aggressive in seeking private donations to develop parkland.
- There is a one-acre natural area south of the SR 161 and just east of the post office. Actions should be taken to preserve this area.
- It was questioned why there is not public access to the wetland area off of Sawmill Place. This area is maintained by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Ms. Vais indicated that she would put a call into the department to get more information.

The meeting concluded at approximately 8:45 pm.

There will be a public open house on Wednesday, September 21 from 6-8 p.m. at the Northwest Library. Please attend any time between 6 and 8 p.m. to offer additional feedback on the issues that have been raised and discussed by the Advisory Committee.